proposed area of diversion for any purpose other than survey and demarcation after obtaining prior permission of the local DFO.

(ii) No operation will be undertaken which will likely to disturb the migration and mass nesting of sea turtles i.e. between January to March every year.

(iii) The user agency will not, in any manner, cause distrubance to the Mangrove Ecosystem and wildlife habitat.

(iv) The islands where from diversion of land has been proposed will remain closed to outsiders excepting defence and forest personnels.

(v) The lights on the Outer-wheeler Islands during the period i.e. between January to March will have to be camouflaged in such a manner that it is not seen from Gahirmatha side, so as to present any disturbance to young turtle.

If these safeguards are properly followed the effect on the sea turtles will be minimal.

Subsidy on Sugar

562. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of subsidy given to FCI each month for the distribution of sugar;

(b) whether a large amount of subsidy is to be paid by the Government to FCI;

(c) whether the Government plan to clear the dues; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Subsidy is paid to FCI as per the claims which are not monthwise.

Subsidy Paid to FCI Date	Amount Released (in crores)
19.12.95	Rs. 100 cr.
20.3.96	Rs. 80.73 cr.
21.6.96	Rs. 155.62 cr.
21.6.96	Rs. 258.67 cr.
2.1.97	Rs. 81.46 cr.
18.2.97	Rs. 148.00 cr.
	Rs. 824.48 cr.

Surrender of Militants

563. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of militants who surrendered before the Indian forces;

(b) whether there is any scheme for their rehabilitation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The information is being obtained from States/UTs and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Programmes for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes

564. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether special programmes have been planned in the Ninth Plan to mitigate the problems of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of the society; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) **Scheduled Castes Development** :

No new programmes have been proposed in the Ninth Plan in respect of Scheduled Castes Development. However, the on-going programmes are being continued and will be strengthened. Wherever necessary, the schemes will be suitably re-structured.

Scheduled Tribes Development :

A special scheme has been proposed during the Ninth Plan for Socio-Economic Development of primitive Tribal Groups, numbering 7 tribes, in the country. The focus of this scheme will be both basic infrastructure development and for educational and economic development. Medical intervention is also an important aspect of the scheme. During 1997-98, an outlay of Rs. 2.00/- crores has been proposed. This new scheme is proposed to be introduced in addition to the on-going schemes.

Minorities Development :

No special programme has been planned for the weaker sections amongst minorities during the Ninth Plan period except for the on-going scheme of Pre-Examination Coaching Scheme for Weaker Sections based on economic criteria While an amount of Rs. 18.20 crores has been proposed for the Ninth Plan, during 1997-98 a sum of Rs.